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# New Mexico Labor Market Review

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New Mexico Department of LABOR

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New Mexico's unemployment rate declined in April, dropping seven-tenths of a percentage point from 7.7 to 7.0 percent, according to estimates released by Paul Garcia, Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Labor. This represents the state's lowest April unemployment rate since 1980. The number of New Mexicans looking for work decreased by 4,100 during the month, while 6,100 more persons were employed than in March. Approximately 9,800 fewer persons are now unemployed in New Mexico compared with April last year when the jobless rate stood at 8.4 percent. The number of New Mexicans recieving unemployment insurance is also down over the year from 11,652 in April 1988 to 10,782 this April. The U.S. unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 5.1 percent in April, down from 5.2 percent in March and 5.3 percent one year ago.

Total nonagricultural payroll employment across the state showed a very gentle rise between March and April, increasing by 3,600 jobs to reach a total of 550,700. The mining, manufacturing, transportation & public utilities, services, and government sectors all showed less than a one percent increase from the previous month. Trade picked up 1,400 jobs over March for a 1.1 percent increase, apparently in preparation for the summer tourist season. Construction showed the strongest increase during April with an overall gain of 700 jobs or 2.5 percent, as is to be expected with the onset of more reliable weather.

The increase in nonfarm payroll employment over one year ago shown by the Department of Labor employer survey stands at 13,500 jobs statewide for a 2.5 percent increase. Two sectors, construction and transportation / utilities have fewer jobs now than one year ago. Employment in the mining sector has increased by 100 since April of last year, with all of that gain in coal as one of New Mexico's major coal mines, York Canyon, was sold and now has resumed operations. Total government showed an increase of about 3,400 jobs since April 1988, with most of the growth education-related in the local and state subsectors. Significant over-the year growth also took place in manufacturing with 1,300 new jobs, in retail trade with 4,900 new jobs and in services with 4,000 new jobs. In summary, payroll employment in New Mexico closely followed the normal seasonal trend of a moderate increase in April; however, over the longer term, employment is up solidly in most major categories, especially in trade, services, and manufacturing.

| | Prel. | Revised | | Change From | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Apr. 1989 | Mar. 1989 | Apr. 1988 | Mar. 1989 | Apr. 1988 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 683,800 | 681,800 | 689,000 | +2,000 | -5,200 |
| Employment | 635,700 | 629,600 | 631,100 | +6,100 | +4,600 |
| Unemployment | 48,100 | 52,200 | 57,900 | -4,100 | -9,800 |
| Rate | 7.0% | 7.7% | 8.4% | | |

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE,AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

| NEW MEXICO | PRELIM APR 1989 | REVISED MAR 1989 | REVISED APR 1988 | APR CHANGE FROM MAR 1989 | APR CHANGE FROM APR 1988 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/ | 550,700 | 547,100 | 537,200 | 3,600 | 13,500 |
| MINING | 15,300 | 15,200 | 15,200 | 100 | 100 |
| Metal Mining | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Bituminous Coal, Quarrying etc | 4,100 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 100 | 100 |
| Oil & Gas Extraction | 9,200 | 9,200 | 9,200 | 0 | 0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 29,200 | 28,500 | 29,700 | 700 | -500 |
| MANUFACTURING | 40,500 | 40,400 | 39,200 | 100 | 1,300 |
| DURABLE GOODS | 27,600 | 27,500 | 26,500 | 100 | 1,100 |
| Lumber & Wood Products | 2,400 | 2,400 | 2,400 | 0 | 0 |
| Machinery(except electric) | 2,700 | 2,700 | 2,600 | 0 | 100 |
| Elec & Electronic Equip | 5,700 | 5,800 | 5,200 | -100 | 500 |
| Transportation Equipment | 5,400 | 5,400 | 5,100 | 0 | 300 |
| Other Durable Goods | 11,400 | 11,200 | 11,200 | 200 | 200 |
| NONDURABLE GOODS | 12,900 | 12,900 | 12,700 | 0 | 200 |
| Food & Kindred Products | 3,700 | 3,700 | 3,600 | 0 | 100 |
| Textile & Apparel | 2,700 | 2,700 | 2,700 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 6,500 | 6,500 | 6,400 | 0 | 100 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 28,700 | 28,500 | 29,200 | 200 | -500 |
| TRANSPORTATION | 13,600 | 13,500 | 13,500 | 100 | 100 |
| Railroad Transportation | 1,900 | 1,900 | 2,100 | 0 | -200 |
| Trucking & Warehousing | 6,700 | 6,700 | 6,500 | 0 | 200 |
| Other Transportation | 5,000 | 4,900 | 4,900 | 100 | 100 |
| COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 15,100 | 15,000 | 15,700 | 100 | -600 |
| Communication | 6,600 | 6,500 | 6,600 | 100 | 0 |
| Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services | 8,500 | 8,500 | 9,100 | 0 | -600 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 132,100 | 130,700 | 127,200 | 1,400 | 4,900 |
| WHOLESALE TRADE | 23,300 | 23,100 | 23,000 | 200 | 300 |
| Durable Goods | 13,500 | 13,400 | 13,300 | 100 | 200 |
| Nondurable Goods | 9,800 | 9,700 | 9,700 | 100 | 100 |
| RETAIL TRADE | 108,800 | 107,600 | 104,200 | 1,200 | 4,600 |
| Bldg Material & Mobile Homes | 4,400 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 200 | 200 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 12,000 | 11,900 | 11,600 | 100 | 400 |
| Food Stores | 14,800 | 14,800 | 14,500 | 0 | 300 |
| Auto Dealers & Service Stations | 13,700 | 13,800 | 13,600 | -100 | 100 |
| Apparel & Accessories | 5,300 | 5,300 | 5,200 | 0 | 100 |
| Furniture & Furnishing | 4,300 | 4,400 | 4,300 | -100 | 0 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 42,100 | 41,100 | 39,300 | 1,000 | 2,800 |
| Miscellaneous Retail | 12,200 | 12,100 | 11,500 | 100 | 700 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE | 27,500 | 27,100 | 26,700 | 400 | 800 |
| Banking | 7,900 | 7,900 | 8,100 | 0 | -200 |
| Insurance Carriers | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,000 | 0 | 200 |
| Insur Agents, Brokers & Service | 3,100 | 3,000 | 2,900 | 100 | 200 |
| Real Estate | 6,400 | 6,200 | 5,900 | 200 | 500 |
| Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate | 5,900 | 5,800 | 5,800 | 100 | 100 |
| SERVICES | 131,000 | 130,500 | 127,000 | 500 | 4,000 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging Places | 11,400 | 10,900 | 11,100 | 500 | 300 |
| Personal Services | 6,600 | 6,500 | 6,200 | 100 | 400 |
| Business Services | 32,000 | 32,300 | 31,400 | -300 | 600 |
| Health Services | 32,100 | 32,000 | 31,400 | 100 | 700 |
| Legal Services | 4,500 | 4,500 | 4,400 | 0 | 100 |
| Educational Services | 5,800 | 5,900 | 5,600 | -100 | 200 |
| Social Services | 7,900 | 7,900 | 7,700 | 0 | 200 |
| Membership Organizations | 6,000 | 5,800 | 6,300 | 200 | -300 |
| Other Services | 24,700 | 24,700 | 22,900 | 0 | 1,800 |
| TOTAL GOVERNMENT | 146,400 | 146,200 | 143,000 | 200 | 3,400 |
| FEDERAL GOVERNMENT | 30,600 | 30,400 | 30,100 | 200 | 500 |
| STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT | 115,800 | 115,800 | 112,900 | 0 | 2,900 |
| State Government 2/ | 51,700 | 51,600 | 50,600 | 100 | 1,100 |
| Universities | 24,000 | 24,000 | 23,500 | 0 | 500 |
| Local Government | 64,100 | 64,200 | 62,300 | -100 | 1,800 |
| Schools | 39,900 | 40,100 | 38,700 | -200 | 1,200 |

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

## ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

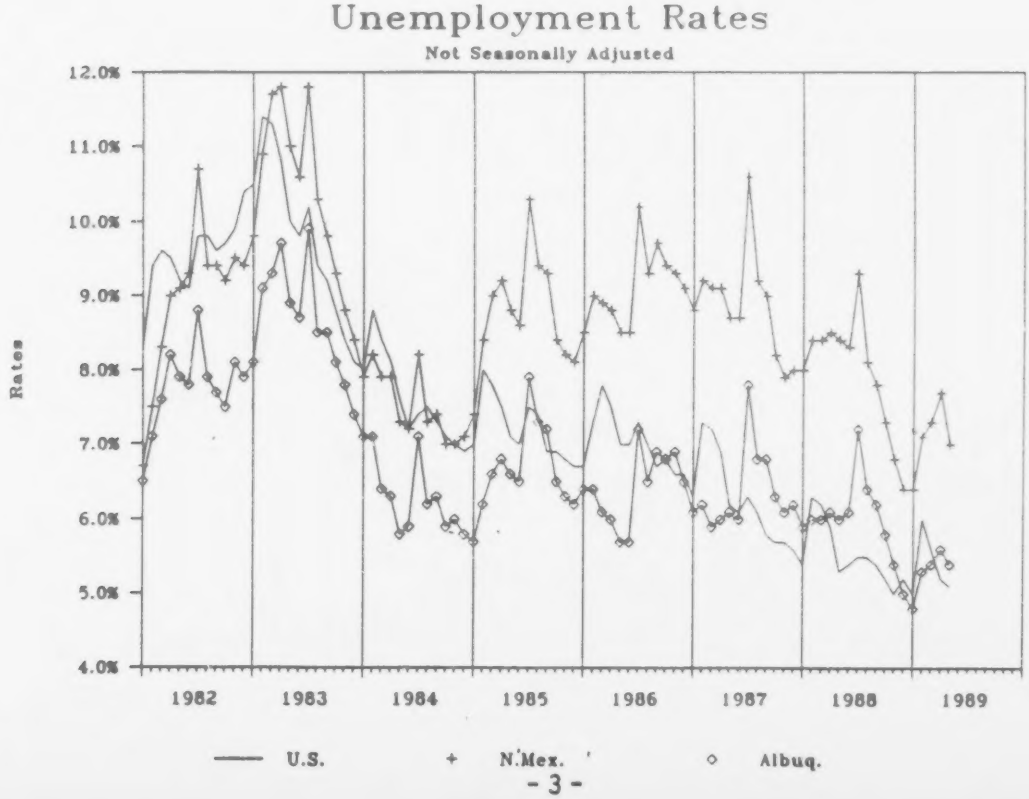
Albuquerque's unemployment rate is now at 5.4 percent or 2 tenths of a percentage point lower than in March. Unemployment decreased by 500 this April while the number of Albuquerque job seekers was 1,500 less than in April 1988.

According to the monthly survey of employers in Albuquerque, changes in most sectors of nonagricultural employment were minor. Employment in the manufacturing, transportation & public utilities, trade, services, and government sectors increased by less than one percent over last month. Employment increased by 300 in construction and by 200 in trade, following seasonal trends. Since January, employment in the construction sector has increased by 600 jobs, which is about normal for the first four months of the year. Manufacturing employment showed little change from March to April, growing by 100 jobs to a level of 20,600, up from 20,400 jobs in January.

Total nonagricultural employment in Bernalillo County grew by 5,000 since April 1988 for a 2.1 percent annual increase. Construction showed no change during that period, remaining at 14,600 jobs. The completion of work at the Albuquerque International Airport may cause some weakening in this sector in future months. Transportation & public utilities also remained unchanged over the year, perhaps a better than expected result given the Public Service Company of New Mexico layoffs. At 12,700 jobs, this sector has increased by 500 jobs since April 1987.

Trade has increased by a healthy 1,900 jobs over the last year, all in retail trade. The finance, insurance & real estate sector has increased by 200 jobs over the year, with a decline in banking offset by an increase in the insurance-related category. The decline in banking employment can presumably be attributed to the difficulties in the thrift industry. Service employment has increased by 1,400 with all subsectors showing increases except lodging places. Government increased by 1,300 jobs over last April, virtually all in education-related state and local government.

| | Prel. | Revised | | Change From | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Apr. 1989 | Mar. 1989 | Apr. 1988 | Mar. 1989 | Apr.1988 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 262,200 | 260,700 | 263,900 | +1,500 | -1,700 |
| Employment | 248,000 | 246,000 | 248,200 | +2,000 | - 200 |
| Unemployment | 14,200 | 14,700 | 15,700 | - 500 | -1,500 |
| Rate | 5.4% | 5.6% | 5.9% | | |



ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

| ALBUQUERQUE MSA (BERNALILLO COUNTY) | PRELIM APR 1989 | REVISED MAR 1989 | REVISED APR 1988 | APR CHANGE FROM MAR 1989 | APR CHANGE FROM APR 1988 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/ | 239,500 | 238,300 | 234,500 | 1,200 | 5,000 |
| MINING | 200 | 200 | 200 | 0 | 0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 14,600 | 14,300 | 14,600 | 300 | 0 |
| MANUFACTURING | 20,600 | 20,500 | 20,400 | 100 | 200 |
| Durable Goods | 14,900 | 14,800 | 14,900 | 100 | 0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 5,700 | 5,700 | 5,500 | 0 | 200 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 12,700 | 12,600 | 12,700 | 100 | 0 |
| Transportation | 6,900 | 6,800 | 6,600 | 100 | 300 |
| Communication | 3,600 | 3,600 | 3,700 | 0 | -100 |
| Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,400 | 0 | -200 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 60,900 | 60,700 | 59,000 | 200 | 1,900 |
| WHOLESALE TRADE | 14,200 | 14,200 | 14,200 | 0 | 0 |
| Durable Goods | 9,400 | 9,400 | 9,400 | 0 | 0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 4,800 | 4,800 | 4,800 | 0 | 0 |
| RETAIL TRADE | 46,700 | 46,500 | 44,800 | 200 | 1,900 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 4,700 | 4,800 | 4,600 | -100 | 100 |
| Food Stores | 5,300 | 5,300 | 5,000 | 0 | 300 |
| Auto Dealers & Service Stations | 5,000 | 5,000 | 4,900 | 0 | 100 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 18,800 | 18,600 | 17,700 | 200 | 1,100 |
| Other Retail Trade | 12,900 | 12,800 | 12,600 | 100 | 300 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE | 15,100 | 14,900 | 14,900 | 200 | 200 |
| Banking | 3,300 | 3,300 | 3,400 | 0 | -100 |
| Ins Carriers, Agents & Brokers | 4,700 | 4,600 | 4,500 | 100 | 200 |
| Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate | 7,100 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 100 | 100 |
| SERVICES | 67,000 | 66,700 | 65,600 | 300 | 1,400 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging Places | 3,600 | 3,600 | 3,700 | 0 | -100 |
| Personal Services | 3,400 | 3,300 | 3,200 | 100 | 200 |
| Business Services | 21,900 | 22,000 | 21,700 | -100 | 200 |
| Health Services | 15,100 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 100 | 100 |
| Social Services | 3,300 | 3,400 | 3,200 | -100 | 100 |
| Membership Organizations | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,900 | 0 | 100 |
| Other Services | 17,700 | 17,400 | 16,900 | 300 | 800 |
| TOTAL GOVERNMENT | 48,400 | 48,400 | 47,100 | 0 | 1,300 |
| FEDERAL GOVERNMENT | 13,600 | 13,600 | 13,500 | 0 | 100 |
| STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT | 34,800 | 34,800 | 33,600 | 0 | 1,200 |
| State Government | 13,300 | 13,300 | 12,900 | 0 | 400 |
| Local Government | 21,500 | 21,500 | 20,700 | 0 | 800 |

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

| LAS CRUCES MSA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/ | PRELIM APR 1989 | REVISED MAR 1989 | REVISED APR 1988 | APR CHANGE FROM MAR 1989 | APR CHANGE FROM APR 1988 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/ | 42,200 | 41,750 | 40,700 | 450 | 1,500 |
| MINING | 100 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 2,300 | 2,200 | 2,100 | 100 | 200 |
| MANUFACTURING | 3,600 | 3,600 | 3,600 | 0 | 0 |
| Durable Goods | 1,600 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 0 | 0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0 | 0 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 1,350 | 1,350 | 1,400 | 0 | -50 |
| Transportation | 500 | 500 | 550 | 0 | -50 |
| Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs | 850 | 850 | 850 | 0 | 0 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 9,000 | 8,900 | 8,500 | 100 | 500 |
| WHOLESALE TRADE | 950 | 950 | 900 | 0 | 50 |
| RETAIL TRADE | 8,050 | 7,950 | 7,600 | 100 | 450 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 850 | 850 | 850 | 0 | 0 |
| Food Stores | 1,150 | 1,150 | 1,050 | 0 | 100 |
| Auto Dealers & Service Stations | 1,050 | 1,050 | 950 | 0 | 100 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 3,200 | 3,100 | 3,100 | 100 | 100 |
| Other Retail Trade | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,650 | 0 | 150 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE | 1,750 | 1,750 | 1,650 | 0 | 100 |
| SERVICES | 6,800 | 6,700 | 6,400 | 100 | 400 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging Places | 700 | 650 | 700 | 50 | 0 |
| Business Services | 1,350 | 1,350 | 1,250 | 0 | 100 |
| Health Services | 1,850 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 50 | 50 |
| Social Services | 300 | 300 | 250 | 0 | 50 |
| Other Services | 2,600 | 2,600 | 2,400 | 0 | 200 |
| TOTAL GOVERNMENT | 17,300 | 17,200 | 17,000 | 100 | 300 |
| FEDERAL GOVERNMENT | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,300 | 0 | -100 |
| STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT | 13,100 | 13,000 | 12,700 | 100 | 400 |
| State Government | 7,300 | 7,200 | 7,100 | 100 | 200 |
| Local Government | 5,800 | 5,800 | 5,600 | 0 | 200 |

| SANTA FE MSA (SANTA FE & LOS ALAMOS COUNTIES) 1/ | PRELIM APR 1989 | REVISED MAR 1989 | REVISED APR 1988 | APR CHANGE FROM MAR 1989 | APR CHANGE FROM APR 1988 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/ | 55,450 | 55,400 | 54,150 | 50 | 1,300 |
| MINING | 100 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| CONSTRUCTION | 2,400 | 2,300 | 2,500 | 100 | -100 |
| MANUFACTURING | 1,650 | 1,650 | 1,600 | 0 | 50 |
| Durable Goods | 1,050 | 1,050 | 1,000 | 0 | 50 |
| Nondurable Goods | 600 | 600 | 600 | 0 | 0 |
| TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,200 | 0 | -100 |
| Transportation | 450 | 450 | 450 | 0 | 0 |
| Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs | 650 | 650 | 750 | 0 | -100 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | 11,000 | 10,900 | 10,400 | 100 | 600 |
| WHOLESALE TRADE | 900 | 900 | 850 | 0 | 50 |
| RETAIL TRADE | 10,100 | 10,000 | 9,550 | 100 | 550 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 950 | 900 | 950 | 50 | 0 |
| Food Stores | 1,250 | 1,250 | 1,100 | 0 | 150 |
| Auto Dealers & Service Stations | 800 | 850 | 800 | -50 | 0 |
| Eating & Drinking Places | 4,600 | 4,500 | 4,200 | 100 | 400 |
| Other Retail Trade | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 0 | 0 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE | 1,900 | 1,900 | 1,950 | 0 | -50 |
| SERVICES | 14,550 | 14,850 | 14,350 | -300 | 200 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging Places | 2,000 | 1,800 | 1,950 | 200 | 50 |
| Business Services | 3,200 | 3,400 | 3,200 | -200 | 0 |
| Health Services | 3,600 | 3,600 | 3,400 | 0 | 200 |
| Social Services | 750 | 750 | 700 | 0 | 50 |
| Other Services | 5,000 | 5,300 | 5,100 | -300 | -100 |
| TOTAL GOVERNMENT | 22,750 | 22,650 | 22,100 | 100 | 650 |
| FEDERAL GOVERNMENT | 1,550 | 1,550 | 1,600 | 0 | -50 |
| STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT | 21,200 | 21,100 | 20,500 | 100 | 700 |
| State Government 3/ | 16,900 | 16,800 | 16,300 | 100 | 600 |
| Local Government | 4,300 | 4,300 | 4,200 | 0 | 100 |

1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employees are rounded to nearest 50. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employees are rounded to 100.
2/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
3/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS
Hours and Earnings of Production, Construction and Nonsupervisory Employees
(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

| NEW MEXICO | AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS | | | AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS | | | AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | APR 1989 | MAR 1989 | APR 1988 | APR 1989 | MAR 1989 | APR 1988 | APR 1989 | MAR 1989 | APR 1988 |
| MINING | $528.04 | $522.80 | $508.73 | 43.0 | 43.1 | 42.5 | 12.28 | 12.13 | 11.97 |
| CONSTRUCTION | $448.37 | $442.68 | $409.50 | 39.4 | 38.9 | 37.5 | 11.38 | 11.38 | 10.92 |
| MANUFACTURING | $351.07 | $354.38 | $359.10 | 41.4 | 41.4 | 40.9 | 8.48 | 8.56 | 8.78 |
| Durable Goods | $371.85 | $378.38 | $374.95 | 42.4 | 42.9 | 41.8 | 8.77 | 8.82 | 8.97 |
| Nondurable Goods | $299.15 | $295.19 | $316.86 | 38.7 | 37.7 | 38.5 | 7.73 | 7.83 | 8.23 |
| COMMUNICATION & UTILITIES | $540.18 | $560.17 | $546.80 | 39.2 | 39.2 | 40.0 | 13.78 | 14.29 | 13.67 |
| WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE | $210.18 | $206.23 | $214.33 | 31.0 | 31.2 | 31.8 | 6.78 | 6.61 | 6.74 |
| Wholesale Trade | $347.62 | $337.90 | $330.40 | 38.2 | 39.2 | 35.0 | 9.10 | 8.62 | 9.44 |
| Retail Trade | $183.82 | $186.81 | $191.26 | 29.6 | 29.7 | 31.2 | 6.21 | 6.29 | 6.13 |
| BANKING | $248.57 | $246.18 | $225.60 | 37.1 | 37.3 | 37.6 | 6.70 | 6.60 | 6.00 |
| ALBUQUERQUE MSA | APR 1989 | MAR 1989 | APR 1988 | APR 1989 | MAR 1989 | APR 1988 | APR 1989 | MAR 1989 | APR 1988 |
| MANUFACTURING | $374.24 | $379.04 | $376.99 | 40.9 | 41.2 | 40.8 | 9.15 | 9.20 | 9.24 |
| Durable Goods | $398.47 | $403.65 | $397.10 | 41.9 | 42.4 | 41.8 | 9.51 | 9.52 | 9.50 |
| Nondurable Goods | $301.31 | $304.88 | $310.20 | 37.9 | 37.5 | 37.6 | 7.95 | 8.13 | 8.25 |

NOTE: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

## U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Historical data for the CPI series are available from the U.S. Department of Labor by writing to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 525 Griffin St., Rm. 221, Dallas, TX 75202, or by calling (214) 767-6970.

| | Apr. 1989 | Mar.1989 | Apr. 1988 | Percent Change Mar.'89-Apr.'89 | Percent Change Apr.'88-Apr.'89 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CPI-U | 123.1 | 122.3 | 117.1 | +0.7% | +5.1% |
| CPI-W | 121.8 | 120.8 | 115.7 | +0.8% | +5.3% |

Index Base Year 1982-84 = 100

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Area Economic Activity

**Statewide:** The New Mexico Human Services Department will eliminate 60 temporary positions in the Social Services Division after June 30th but the 1989 Legislature approved 43 new permanent positions for the Department. Of the new positions, ten will be adult protective service workers, five will be child protective service workers, eight will be homemakers and twenty will be existing temporary positions converted to permanent. White Sands Missile Range and a site north of Orogande are being considered along with three sites outside of New Mexico for a $133 million Superconducting Magnetic Energy Storage Engineering Test Model. A Deming farm-labor contractor could be facing the largest fine ever imposed by the U.S. Border Patrol's El Paso sector. The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 requires all employers to prepare a Form I-9 for each alien employee hired after November 6, 1986. An intent-to-fine notice of $86,500 for failing to keep proper records on employees was served to the contractor. In mid-April, summer youth staff began recruiting and taking applications for the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program. Estimated summer youth employment for New Mexico will be 12,700.

**Albuquerque Area:** Thirteen Albuquerque Public Schools employees lost their jobs in mid-May due to budget cuts as Board members also agreed to cut the equivalent of 39 full-time teacher positions from mid-schools. The board tentatively approved a plan which eliminates 205 full-time jobs, including positions that were vacant at the end of last school year, positions that were frozen throughout the year, positions budgeted for growth and transfers to other jobs within the district. The Albuquerque International Airport has just completed a major expansion project. About 800 people were directly involved with the overall construction. Work on the terminal building was handled by PCL Construction, a Canadian company with a branch in Denver, which contracted with at least 60 other companies to work on the terminal and arrival and departure roadways. About 90 percent of the people working for PCL were locally based. More than 1,300 people are directly and indirectly employed on the airport grounds excluding the construction workers. Hundreds of others work at the Amfac Hotel, the park-and-ride parking lots, car rental companies and taxi, shuttle and air freight companies. The Intel plant in Rio Rancho will be eliminating about 80 of 1,450 total jobs by mid-year as part of a companywide cost-cutting campaign. The company will attempt to transfer workers out of deleted positions to other jobs in the plant. Gulton Data Systems has won a $20 million contract to provide electronic hardware for the Atlas II launch vehicle. The Atlas II sub-contract is an extension of Gulton's previous work on the Atlas I launch vehicle. A McDonald's Family Restaurant will be opening on Kirtland Air Force Base June 30. The restaurant plans to employ approximately 100 people and is one of several planned for U.S. Air Force installations throughout the country. A worldwide food-packaging company, International Multifoods Corp., plans to reopen its frozen foods plant, hire 150 people, and begin making three Mexican-style appetizers under the name Fred's Frozen Foods in June. Albuquerque's Veterans Administration Hospital has closed 50 of its hospital beds, and may close a 30-bed transitional psychiatric ward due to budgetary shortfalls. About 20 employees on the ward will be transferred to other areas of the hospital. Penney's department store will be moving from Winrock Center to Coronado Center into the space formerly occupied by Foley's department store. The move will mean an expansion of Penney's, which employs about 280 full and part-time workers in its Winrock store. The number of new employees to be added is not known. Albuquerque Auto Auction broke ground May 4th for a facility on Broadway S.E. which is

scheduled to open in October. Metro Market Super Value, located at Academy and San Mateo, held its grand opening in late April. The Safeway supermarket on Carlisle and Constitution celebrated its grand reopening, becoming the third refurbished Albuquerque Safeway store. A spokesperson for Safeway Management said the supermarket chain store also plans major remodeling for its Belen and Socorro stores with a new Safeway opening in Hobbs this fall. U.S. Cotton Inc., based in California, will build a plant in Rio Rancho that will manufacture cotton cosmetic pads. Ground breaking ceremonies were held in early May and the plant is scheduled for completion in November. The facility will initially hire up to 20 workers and could eventually employ 50 people. General Electric laid off about 75 employees in March and April.

**Alamogordo Area:** The Lincoln National Forest suspended all timber cutting in early May because of extreme fire danger. Nearly 80 people involved in the local forest products industry were out of work for nearly a week following the decision by the U.S. Forest Service. The layoffs affected loggers and contract employees.

**Artesia Area:** The satellite Advanced Federal Law Enforcement Training Center is scheduled to open in June. The center will train a range of federal officers and will inhabit buildings that formerly housed the Artesia Christian College. These structures will undergo complete renovation and new buildings will be erected. Vantage Engineering of Roswell received the contract to remodel and renovate the cafeteria for the Center. Once open, the staff will consist of about 30 federal employees. A new Veterans Administration Clinic satellite opened in March.

**Carlsbad Area:** A Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement has recommended that the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant open for a five-year test phase. The study also recommended that up to 100,000 barrels of waste be buried at the site near Carlsbad for test purposes.

**Clovis Area:** The New Mexico Federation of Labor has stated that legal action will be taken against a recently passed Clovis right-to-work ordinance. The Federation stated that the ordinance is unconstitutional as it contradicts federal law. A right-to-work law prohibits a company and a union from signing a contract requiring workers to be members of a union. The Clovis City Commission voted to enact the Right-to-Work law at the Clovis City Commission meeting in early May. Clovis Pressure Cool Inc., a new company, will begin processing and shipping cantaloupes and cucumbers this summer. The Alco Discount Store at Hilltop Plaza in Clovis will close its doors as part of a restructuring plan. The restructuring involves closing 52 of the chain's 150 stores. Alco Discount Stores Inc. at Hilltop Plaza will be the only one to close in New Mexico.

**Farmington Area:** San Juan Regional Medical Center will expand its emergency room area. The estimated cost of the project is $975,000 for construction and additional equipment. A Bloomfield oil equipment company, P & A Inc., laid off 15 employees.

**Hobbs Area:** Pacific Texas Pipeline Co. will construct a terminal and storage facility in Jal. Construction may begin near the end of the summer, and between 150 to 200 employees will be required to maintain operations. Operations staff include accounting and general office staff, operation engineers, maintenance personnel and truck drivers. Rig count for Lea County remained near 20 during April.

**Las Cruces Area:** B.P. John Furniture Co. has announced cancellation of its plans to relocate to Las Cruces. B. P. John Furniture Co. would have employed between 400 to 600 people. Aero Freight Inc. of El Paso plans to move 80 percent of its operation to the Santa

Teresa Airport. The company is expected to start flying to Santa Teresa Airport at the beginning of next year and to shift the rest of its operation there once the runway is hardened. A new business, Las Cruces Tumor Institute, has opened to treat cancer patients. Frank Borman plans to move the Chatsworth, California based laser patent research company, Patlex Corp., to a business park he is building at Cotorro Court in Las Cruces. Wal-Mart Discount City will be expanding its Lohman Avenue store and employing thirty additional area residents. Construction is expected to be complete in late summer.

**Las Vegas Area:** The Federal Aviation Administration has awarded the city of Las Vegas a $210,000 airport improvement grant for installation of a water supply system.

**Los Alamos Area:** Los Alamos Medical Center has scheduled a $1 million renovation project to begin on May 23. The U.S. Forest Service will allow Copar Pumice Co. of Espanola to begin mining in the Jemez Mountains. Members of the Los Alamos National Laboratory guard force and Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co. signed a contract two months after the guards walked off their jobs. The strike began March 13th when about 250 security inspectors went on strike protesting Mason & Hanger-Silas Co.'s working conditions and disciplinary policies.

**Raton Area:** The Pittsburg and Midway Coal Mining Co. York Canyon Mine has gained a purchase contract for four trainloads of coal to be shipped to Arizona Electric Power Company. Company officials temper their optimism about a permanent upturn in production at York Canyon given the unpredictable coal market and other factors. During mid-May, total workforce at York Canyon stood at about 110 union workers and company staff. La Mesa Park Track opened May 13th with approximately 175 employees.

**Ruidoso Area:** A new business, Apache Future Inc. has located on the Mescalero Apache Indian Reservation. Apache Future Inc. will have its headquarters in the Former Job Corps building on the reservation where training will take place. The business could employ from 200 to 300 people by next year. The company will initially manufacture wire harnesses and sub assemblies, but will diversify to fulfill contracts for other items.

**Santa Fe Area:** The Archdiocese of Santa Fe laid off 21 employees because of financial problems. The archdiocese currently employs about 80 people. The layoffs affect people in vocations, Catholic schools, marriage tribunal, handicapped programs, Hispanic programs, youth programs, Faith in Action, accounting, and food services and maintenance. Actress Greer Garson is donating $3 million for the College of Santa Fe's new motion picture and television production center, Garson Communications Center. Pranzo, an Italian restaurant, will open in late May or early June at Sanbusco Market Center on Montezuma Avenue. The restaurant will seat 80 to 90 people and will feature carry-out pasta, pizza and other foods. Optometec Design Co., a Santa Fe high-tech company specializing in optics-related mechanical design, has been awarded a Small Business Innovation Research contract by the Department of the Navy. A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for May 14th for the new St. John's College library.

**Taos Area:** About 225 employees will be hired by Molycorp during the next few weeks in preparation for the reopening of the Questa molybdenum mine. The $6.5 million annual Molycorp payroll will make it the largest year-round employer in Taos County. The mine will begin processing ore by August 1 and should be producing at about half its capacity by this fall. The Holiday Inn Don Fernando de Taos held its grand opening in mid-May.

## NEW MEXICO PERMANENT MASS LAYOFFS AND PLANT CLOSINGS, 1988

New Mexico's Permanent Mass Layoff and Plant Closing program (PMLPC) is a state/federal cooperative project involving the New Mexico Department of Labor (NM-DOL) and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. PMLPC is authorized under Section 462(e) of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

When workers involved in a layoff at a particular company file 50 or more unemployment claims in a three week period, the business is contacted by an NM-DOL representative to determine the size of and reason for the layoff as well as other related information. Layoff events involving less than 50 workers, but which are related to a previous qualifying event, are also included in the program. Individual worker's unemployment experience is tracked through their filing for bi-weekly unemployment benefits (continued claimants) and, in some cases, the receipt of final payments (exhaustees). With the cooperation of New Mexico employers, NM-DOL has collected this data since 1986. The following summarizes PMLPC occurrences during the 1988 program year.

In 1988, New Mexico's PMLPC survey collected information on 36 layoff events affecting 17 different companies which resulted in the separation of 4,889 employees. Of the separated employees, 1,905 or 39 percent filed initial claims for unemployment insurance. Twenty-three percent (441) of those who filed eventually exhausted unemployment benefits before finding a new job. PMLPC initial claims filers made up less than three percent of the 69,635 initial claims filed throughout New Mexico during 1988.

Seasonal work was the reason most often cited by employers for PMLPC layoffs. The twenty-two seasonal layoff events made up 61 percent of all layoffs while including over 70 percent of all workers. Representing 19 percent of all layoffs but less than six percent of workers, slack work (seven events) was the second most frequently mentioned reason. Other reasons stated included contract completion, corporate downsizing, reducing services to cut costs, and cutting costs to improve profit margin. Other events accounted for 19 percent of layoffs and almost 24 percent of workers.

Workers laid off from seasonal jobs were less likely to appear on unemployment insurance (UI) claims registers than workers laid off for other reasons. Possible reasons for this include migration to other jobs, filing but not qualifying for UI benefits, or choosing not to file UI claims. Conversely, over 90 percent of those laid off due to slack work filed for UI benefits. Overall, 39 percent of laid off workers filed claims. The table below gives an overview of selected PMLPC data compiled during 1988.

### SELECTED PMLPC RESULTS FOR 1988

| Reason for Layoff | Layoff Events | % of Total | Workers Laid Off | % of Total | Initial Claims | % of Total | % Filing Claims |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Seasonal | 22 | 61.1% | 3,447 | 70.5% | 1,092 | 57.3% | 31.7% |
| Slack Work | 7 | 19.4% | 285 | 5.8% | 260 | 13.6% | 91.2% |
| All Others | 7 | 19.4% | 1,157 | 23.7% | 553 | 29.0% | 47.8% |
| Total | 36 | 100.0% | 4,889 | 100.0% | 1,905 | 100.0% | 39.0% |

NOTE: Percentages may not sum to totals due to rounding.

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

| | PRELIMINARY APRIL 1989 | | | | REVISED MARCH 1989 | | | | REVISED APRIL 1988 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate | Labor Force | Empl. | Unemp. | Rate |
| STATEWIDE | 683,797 | 635,729 | 48,068 | 7.0% | 681,880 | 629,641 | 52,239 | 7.7% | 689,058 | 631,119 | 57,939 | 8.4% |
| ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/ | 262,134 | 247,957 | 14,177 | 5.4% | 260,718 | 246,019 | 14,699 | 5.6% | 263,932 | 248,185 | 15,747 | 6.0% |
| LAS CRUCES MSA 3/ | 54,838 | 51,059 | 3,779 | 6.9% | 55,213 | 50,970 | 4,243 | 7.7% | 55,836 | 51,623 | 4,213 | 7.5% |
| SANTA FE MSA 4/ | 64,917 | 62,217 | 2,700 | 4.2% | 64,891 | 61,559 | 3,332 | 5.1% | 66,942 | 63,165 | 3,777 | 5.6% |
| Catron | 1,169 | 1,010 | 159 | 13.6% | 1,115 | 906 | 209 | 18.7% | 1,108 | 904 | 204 | 18.4% |
| Chaves | 24,110 | 22,758 | 1,352 | 5.6% | 23,821 | 22,413 | 1,408 | 5.9% | 23,239 | 21,703 | 1,536 | 6.6% |
| Cibola | 9,211 | 8,195 | 1,016 | 11.0% | 9,312 | 8,232 | 1,080 | 11.6% | 9,257 | 8,116 | 1,141 | 12.3% |
| Colfax | 6,439 | 5,480 | 959 | 14.9% | 6,446 | 5,355 | 1,091 | 16.9% | 7,020 | 5,653 | 1,367 | 19.5% |
| Curry | 16,239 | 15,117 | 1,122 | 6.9% | 16,171 | 15,055 | 1,116 | 6.9% | 16,172 | 14,782 | 1,390 | 8.6% |
| De Baca | 956 | 862 | 94 | 9.8% | 926 | 814 | 112 | 12.1% | 911 | 805 | 106 | 11.6% |
| Eddy | 20,248 | 18,611 | 1,637 | 8.1% | 20,381 | 18,559 | 1,822 | 8.9% | 19,862 | 17,893 | 1,969 | 9.9% |
| Grant | 10,304 | 9,386 | 918 | 8.9% | 10,239 | 9,212 | 1,027 | 10.0% | 10,578 | 9,569 | 1,009 | 9.5% |
| Guadalupe | 1,709 | 1,475 | 234 | 13.7% | 1,719 | 1,444 | 275 | 16.0% | 1,673 | 1,391 | 282 | 16.9% |
| Harding | 429 | 368 | 61 | 14.2% | 420 | 350 | 70 | 16.7% | 415 | 335 | 80 | 19.3% |
| Hidalgo | 2,592 | 2,447 | 145 | 5.6% | 2,592 | 2,421 | 171 | 6.6% | 2,509 | 2,305 | 204 | 8.1% |
| Lea | 22,756 | 21,182 | 1,574 | 6.9% | 22,880 | 21,146 | 1,734 | 7.6% | 22,272 | 20,570 | 1,702 | 7.6% |
| Lincoln | 6,691 | 6,304 | 387 | 5.8% | 6,521 | 6,094 | 427 | 6.5% | 6,121 | 5,564 | 557 | 9.1% |
| Luna | 6,083 | 5,315 | 768 | 12.6% | 6,121 | 5,277 | 844 | 13.8% | 6,104 | 5,212 | 892 | 14.6% |
| McKinley | 17,575 | 15,922 | 1,653 | 9.4% | 17,694 | 15,884 | 1,810 | 10.2% | 17,743 | 15,588 | 2,155 | 12.1% |
| Mora | 1,204 | 815 | 389 | 32.3% | 1,219 | 786 | 433 | 35.5% | 1,394 | 824 | 570 | 40.9% |
| Otero | 18,925 | 17,504 | 1,421 | 7.5% | 18,958 | 17,383 | 1,575 | 8.3% | 18,816 | 17,083 | 1,733 | 9.2% |
| Quay | 4,813 | 4,546 | 267 | 5.5% | 4,704 | 4,425 | 279 | 5.9% | 4,583 | 4,217 | 366 | 8.0% |
| Rio Arriba | 13,633 | 11,404 | 2,229 | 16.4% | 13,768 | 11,108 | 2,660 | 19.3% | 14,514 | 11,612 | 2,902 | 20.0% |
| Roosevelt | 7,546 | 7,208 | 338 | 4.5% | 7,328 | 6,958 | 370 | 5.0% | 7,405 | 6,952 | 453 | 6.1% |
| Sandoval | 26,831 | 25,050 | 1,781 | 6.6% | 27,045 | 24,975 | 2,070 | 7.7% | 26,882 | 24,827 | 2,055 | 7.6% |
| San Juan | 32,173 | 28,806 | 3,367 | 10.5% | 32,223 | 28,521 | 3,702 | 11.5% | 33,178 | 28,749 | 4,429 | 13.3% |
| San Miguel | 9,736 | 8,824 | 912 | 9.4% | 9,680 | 8,610 | 1,070 | 11.1% | 10,229 | 8,916 | 1,313 | 12.8% |
| Sierra | 2,632 | 2,502 | 130 | 4.9% | 2,625 | 2,466 | 159 | 6.1% | 2,519 | 2,370 | 149 | 5.9% |
| Socorro | 5,904 | 5,507 | 397 | 6.7% | 5,848 | 5,374 | 474 | 8.1% | 5,185 | 5,611 | 574 | 9.3% |
| Taos | 10,399 | 8,133 | 2,266 | 21.8% | 10,030 | 8,055 | 1,975 | 19.7% | 10,419 | 7,406 | 3,013 | 28.9% |
| Torrance | 3,590 | 3,260 | 330 | 9.2% | 3,520 | 3,129 | 391 | 11.1% | 3,467 | 3,088 | 379 | 10.9% |
| Union | 2,113 | 1,979 | 134 | 6.3% | 2,053 | 1,894 | 159 | 7.7% | 1,933 | 1,771 | 162 | 8.4% |
| Valencia | 15,898 | 14,526 | 1,372 | 8.6% | 15,699 | 14,247 | 1,452 | 9.2% | 15,840 | 14,330 | 1,510 | 9.5% |

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Doña Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

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## NATIONAL CAREER CONFERENCE

The New Mexico State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (SOICC) is hosting the Twelfth Annual National SOICC Conference at the Hilton Inn in Albuquerque, July 31 through August 3, 1989. There will be several nationally known speakers as well as a number of workshops on career, education, employment and related topics. Several sessions will feature discussions of national and regional Workforce 2000 employment and labor issues. For agenda, registration and further information, contact Charles Lehman (505) 841-8636 or Pauline Chavez (505) 841-8455 in Albuquerque.